

Appl. No. 10/090,053
Amtd dated Aug. 17, 2004
Reply to Office action of April 5, 2004
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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 10, lines 20-31, with the following:

Interval 40 corresponds in duration to interval 42, representing the patient's atrial rhythm is sinus driven and sensed atrial depolarizations are conducted to the ventricles. Interval ~~4544~~ terminating with a premature ventricular contraction (PVC), interrupts the regular sinus driven rhythm. In such cases, the VRS calculates a new paced ventricular escape interval 46 that approximates interval 42, to maintain rate stability in so far as this is possible. The VRS also subtracts a shortened PAV interval 48 from interval 46 and the pacing circuitry emits an atrial output pulse at the start of interval 48. Interval 50 may terminate in a ventricular sensed event, with PAV interval 52 starting with a paced atrial event. Paced atrial events may and often will continue for ~~several~~ several more cycles, until the sinus rate recovers from the interruption caused by the PVC. Similarly, ventricular paced events may also continue until the AV node recovers and allows normal AV conduction.

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 20-29, with the following:

Interval 40 in FIG. 4 corresponds in duration to interval 42, representing a condition in which the patient's atrial rhythm is sinus driven and sensed atrial depolarizations are conducted to the ventricles. Interval ~~4544~~, terminating with a premature ventricular contraction (PVC), interrupts the regular sinus driven rhythm. In this embodiment, however, the VRS calculates a new paced ventricular escape interval 54 that approximates interval 42, to maintain rate stability in so far as this is possible. The VRS also subtracts a new, lengthened PAVn interval 56 from interval 54 and the pacing circuitry emits an atrial output pulse at the start of interval 56. The result of lengthened PAV interval 56 is a VS event at end of interval 54, although it could have been a ventricular pace as described below.